Chittorgarh—Ratlam — Indore (from NH-15 to NH—3) and (ii) Gurgaon—Alwar—Sariska—Dausa—Sawai Madhopur—Shivpuri as National Highways;

(d) if so, the action taken thereon so far; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN): (a) Even though the inadequacy of resources has affected the proper upkeep of National Highways, including those in the State of Rajasthan, all efforts are being made to keep them intraffic worthy condition within the available resources.

(b) The requirement of funds for the maintenance of National Highways is worked out as per established norms. However, the availability of resources is much below the requirements. During the current financial year, an amount of Rs. 460 lacs has been released so far.

(c) to (e) Yes, Sir. However, on account of resource constraints, it has not been possible to declare these roads as National Highways.

Exchange of Enclaves Between India and Bangladesh

*290. DR. D. VENKATESWAR RAO: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Chief Minister of West Bengal has sent a proposal to the Central Government for immediate exchange of enclaves between India & Bangladesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there are about 130 Indian enclaves within the Bangladesh territory and over 90 Bangladeshi enclaves in the Indian side;

(d) whether Government are considering the proposal; and

(e) if so, by when the proposal is likely to be considered and whether Bangladesh Government has been consulted in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Shri Jyoti Basu, Chief Minister of West Bengal had written to the previous Prime Minister Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao by letter dated 7 February 1996 on the implementation of the Indo-Bangladesh Land Boundary Agreement, 1974 and exchange of enclaves with Bangladesh.

(c) As per information available, there are 119 exchangeable Indian enclaves in Bangladesh and 72 Bengladesh exchangeable enclaves in India.

(d) and (e) The exchange of enclaves is directly linked to and will necessarily follow the demarcation of boundary with Bangladesh. The demarcation of about 41 kilometres of the Indo-Bangladesh land boundary is yet to be completed. Government propose to complete the task of demarcation of the boundary with Bangladesh with the cooperation of the concerned State Governments.

UN-Convention Against Torture

*291. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:
SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR
SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE*

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the UN-Convention against torture and inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment has not yet been adopted by India and other developing countries, even after a decade of its adoption by the United Nations;

(b) if so, the steps taken so far for adoption of the said UN-Convention, and the reasons for the delay in adoption thereof; and

(c) whether it finds a place in the Minimum Common Programme of Government?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA): (a) The UN-Convention against Torture has not yet been adopted by India and some other developing countries.

(b) This issue was discussed in the Chief Ministers' Conference held on 5th May, 1995. Most of the Chief Ministers were either not infavour of India becoming a signatory to the Convention or were in favour with reservation on certain clauses the Convention.

(c) Yes, Sir.

Artificial Recharge of Ground Water

*292. SHRI SURINDER KUMAR SINGLA:
DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have prepared and published the 'Manual of Artificial recharge of ground water';

(b) if so, when and how many copies of the Manual have been sold;

(c) to what extent recharge has been effective after the Manual came into vogue; and

(d) Government's plans for more effective ground water recharge?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It is not a priced publication. One thousand copies of Manual had been printed in 1994 out of which 350 copies have been circulated for use, mostly among State and Central Government agencies.

(c) Manual only provides guideline in the formulation of recharge schemes.

(d) A Central Sector Scheme of model studies in Recharge of Ground Water prepared by Central Ground Water Board is under implementation. Besides, a Centrally Sponsored scheme to assist states in recharging Ground Water is at consultation stage with concerned agencies.

Waiting List of Telephones in Delhi

*293. SHRI O.P. KOHLI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons on the waiting list for new telephone connections till date in Delhi;

(b) by when the waiting list is likely to be cleared; and

(c) by when the telephone connections are likely to be available on demand?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VERMA) (a) The number of persons on the waiting list for new telephone connections as on 1st July, 1996 is 51,165.

(b) Progressive reduction occurs with addition of more capacity.

(c) It is planned to provided in Delhi 2,50,000 telephone connections during 1996—97. Telephone connections in Delhi may become available on demand by 1997 except in some areas due to technical nonfeasibility.

Cable Ducting in Metropolitan Cities

*294. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU:
SHRI BRATIN SENGUPTA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the cable ducting in KMs completed so far in Delhi, Bombay, Calcutta and Madras;

(b) the year-wise break-up of the above, in each city during the last three years;

(c) the year-wise funds allocated for the above cities;